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SOURCE Magyar Mezőgazdaság.URGE GROWING MORE COTTON IN HUNGARY

The Ministry of Agriculture recently invited the best research and manual workers in the field of cotton production for a 2-day meeting. This was the first congress of Hungarian cotton growers.

Mihaly Keresztes, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, pointed out that it is now beyond doubt that cotton can be grown in Hungary. He said that both the state farms and cooperatives provide ample rewards for cotton growers.

Miklos Derera, a research worker decorated with the Order of Work, is the manager of the cotton-research center at Szekkutas. He reported that, at the rate of 3 quintals per cadastral yoke, 100,000 cadastral yokes would yield enough cotton to supply each of the 8 million citizens with 18.75 meters of cotton fabric per year.

From the seeds of a 3-quintal cotton yield the following can be produced: 33 kilograms of oil, 6 kilograms of soap, 78 kilograms of fodder, 9 kilograms of cellulose, and 57 kilograms of husks, while 5 percent sugar can be extracted from the stems.

In 1950, more than 10,000 cadastral yokes were used for cotton growing. This represents three times as much as was planned for the first plan year. The national average was 3.26 quintals. Best results were obtained in Baranya, Csongrad, and Tolna counties (3.85, 3.66, and 3.21 quintals, respectively), while Somogy County had the poorest result.

Andrej Skoblykov, a cotton expert of the Ministry of Agriculture, addressed the group. He cited examples among state farms where the 3-quintal yield was surpassed. Skoblykov pointed out that cooperatives and individual farms are to be encouraged to grow cotton.

In closing, Ferenc Erdei, Minister of Agriculture, addressed the group. He stressed that cotton is not only a raw material, but is also essential for the development of Hungarian agriculture as a whole. If the proper technique is used, cotton may be instrumental in raising Hungarian agriculture to a record level.

Artificial fertilizer, machinery, seeds, etc., are to be provided in time by the Ministry of Agriculture and the responsible enterprises.

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